

## **#12 County Assistance Fund**

(Navajo County)

Proposal:

Restore County Assistance Fund lottery dollars to their historic level for every county, as part of CSA's "budget priorities" for 2013.

**Background:** 

In FY2011 the State Legislature eliminated the County Assistance Fund as a recipient for Lottery revenues. The County Assistance Fund was eliminated as part of an effort to free up as much of the lottery revenue as possible in order to secure a \$450,000,000 revenue bond to fund the State General Fund.

Prior to FY2011, the County Assistance Fund received \$7,650,000 with \$550,035 going to each of the 13 smaller counties and \$249,772 going to both Maricopa and Pima counties.

For FY2013, \$37.5 million is allocated for debt service payments on the lottery bond and JLBC estimates that lottery revenues will total \$150.6 million with \$57.6 million going to the State General Fund and the rest slotted for other statutory funds.

If there are monies left over after the statutory dispersions, the State General Fund will receive the remainder. Current JLBC forecasts for the Lottery revenue fall about \$2 million short of fully funding all Lottery recipients.

**Fiscal Impact:** 

The fiscal impact will be a positive one for Arizona counties.